

[Letter from Carita Doggett Corse to Alan Lomax, October 19, 1939]

will be out of town the 17th Nov & will be using batteries & transformer unless that time. If you can use it often that I'll send it to u at once. OK informant

Federal Works Agency—Work Projects Administration OF FLORIDA 49 WEST DUVAL STREET JACKSONVILLE

Roy Schroder State Administrator

October 19, 1939

Mr. Alan Lomax Archive of American Folk Songs Division of Music Library of Congress Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lomax:

I was much encouraged by your very kind letter. As long as I feel sure that what we're doing is worthwhile I am ready to work without stint. The interviewers, too, took heart and will try to guard against repetitions and interruptions.

I am also relieved to know that you anticipate some repairs on the equipment. I returned two sapphire needles to Dr. Spivacke by registered mail, No. 9950. One was lost and so we have only one left which we will use as directed.

Stormy weather continues to delay recordings of the shrimp fleet. In the meantime we are getting stevedore songs of the boats loading railroad ties and unloading bananas. Incidentally, the porgy (menhaden) fleet has some very distinctive songs which we could get if we had a transformer to use on the boat. Dr. Spivacke offered us one but I did not think we needed it then.

Library of Congress

Nothing has been heard of the official WPA request for continued use of the machine forwarded to Washington in September. If it comes, I will try to arrange for Conch recordings at Palm Beach and Key West.

I am intensely interested in this phase of our work and am glad I can write you for advice.

Sincerely yours, Carita Doggett Corse
Carita Doggett Corse State Supervisor, Statewide
Writers' Project

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